

plan will protect Social Security and restore fiscal responsibility in Washington. This is just a common-sense proposal that gives the Department and agency heads leeway to trim the waste, fraud, and abuse they find in their budgets. We are not mandating specific cuts, so if important programs get slashed and the administration suggests that it is the right thing to do, then because they have decided to do it, let it be.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that fat should be cut from the bloated Washington bureaucracy, and we can protect Social Security and Medicare by making sure the savings do happen.

#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION CANNOT COUNT

(Mr. SCHAFFER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the Department of Education will make an announcement that should concern every one of us. The Department will announce that since 1998, its books are unauditable.

This is an agency that receives an annual appropriation of \$35 billion and manages another \$85 billion in a loan portfolio. A \$120 billion agency that cannot account for its spending.

Now, I suggest that the President, when he comes back, he is in Turkey this week, and the minority leader when he comes back from the West Coast from his fund-raising expedition, when these folks come back to work, that they join the Republicans here to correct the mismanagement of the Department of Education. Because, Mr. Speaker, the children of America do count. Unfortunately, the Department of Education cannot count.

#### MINORITY LEADER SHOULD COME HOME AND JOIN THE FIGHT TO SAVE SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I am so sorry the gentleman from New York left the Chamber, because I would be happy to offer a current events quiz. Here is the question: Where was the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), minority leader of the United States House, yesterday?

Answer: Raising campaign funds on the West Coast.

But I thought he wanted to reform campaigns. Oh, but not necessarily so. And besides, we all know, Mr. Speaker, that for that crowd to talk about campaign finance reform is a bit akin to having Bonnie and Clyde come out for tougher penalties against bank robbery.

But at any rate, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT) was away.

How can we get our work done? He should have a seat at the table, and he should join with us to save one penny on the dollar for every dollar of discretionary spending, so that the government can live within its means and quit the raid and continue to cease the raid on the Social Security Trust Fund.

Mr. Speaker, I would invite the minority leader to come back to town and go to work and join with us and realize that a penny saved is retirement security.

#### PARTIES TO THE BUDGET NEGOTIATIONS ARE AWOL

(Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I find it disappointing. As we try to bring this budget to conclusion, as we try to finalize the negotiations, we have major people that are a part of this process that are AWOL. They are absent.

□ 1030

How does the Speaker of the House who has to negotiate with the President stay up late at night every night so he can call the President in Turkey? Is that the way to negotiate?

In Pennsylvania where I come from, if the governor or if his cabinet left town during those final negotiations, the press would have been all over them. Why is it possible for the President, the minority leader, who was away yesterday who is the one who is opposing any kind of trimming of waste or fraud, he is the one who is holding out, but he is not available to negotiate yesterday? That is why this process has run on. The President is just finishing his second trip abroad since October 1, and this is when we have been trying to finalize the budget.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, it is important for those who are a part of this negotiating process to stay in town, get the work of the American people done, so we can pass the budget that does not rob Social Security.

#### CONGRESS HAS MORE TIME THAN TAXPAYERS HAVE MONEY

(Mr. THUNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, it is November 17, and we are still here for one reason, and that is that we have got more time than the American taxpayers have money.

This Congress has passed all 13 appropriation bills. The President has chosen to veto 5 of those bills. Why did he veto them? Because they did not spend

enough money. So we are still here negotiating with all the President's men since he is traveling abroad.

The minority leader is traveling in California raising campaign cash. We are still here until the President agrees with us on a budget that does not raid Social Security, does not raise taxes, and rids the budget of waste, fraud, and abuse.

We will stay here as long as it takes until the President gets back and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT) gets back from his California dreaming.

#### FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2000

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 381, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 381

*Resolved*, That upon the adoption of this resolution it shall be in order without intervention of any point of order to consider in the House the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 80) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes. The joint resolution shall be considered as read for amendment. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the joint resolution to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The gentleman from Florida (Mr. GOSS) is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MOAKLEY), my friend, the distinguished ranking member; pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration for this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate on this subject only.

Mr. Speaker, H.Res. 381 is a closed rule waiving all points of order against consideration of H.J. Res. 80, the continuing resolution that we have before us later today. The rule provides for 1 hour of debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations. Finally, the rule provides for one motion to recommit.

Mr. Speaker, Members will know that this is an appropriate and traditional rule for a consideration of a clean continuing resolution. Members who have any kind of memory at all will remember that we have done these kinds of things recently in the past.

Given the complex negotiations that have been under way about the budget, and they have, indeed, been complicated by the fact that some of the principals are out of town for whatever

reason, it is regrettable that, at a time that we are struggling so hard, that the President finds it necessary to be out of the country, and the minority leader finds it necessary to be out of the capital.

But, nevertheless, Americans come to understand that continuing resolutions, which keep the government functioning at last year's levels, are a necessary tool to facilitate bringing closure to the budget debate which we normally have this time of year.

In order to avoid a partial government shutdown, which we certainly want to do, we have proposed another straightforward extension in the deadline, and that is until tomorrow. We have made significant progress toward final agreement, but we must be certain that we do the right thing, not simply the most expedient to get out of town because the folks would like to go home.

In this case, the right thing is very clearly to provide for important government programs without touching the reserves in the Social Security Trust Fund, not one dime. That has been the goal of our majority from the outset of this year's budget process; and while it has taken some time to convince some of our friends on the other side of the aisle and downtown that this fiscal discipline is, indeed, necessary, we now have everyone working from the same set of guidelines. We just have to keep reminding them of the guidelines.

It has also taken some time to convince the White House that increasing taxes and using part of the surplus, as has been suggested by the White House, are not acceptable approaches to the majority on the Hill.

I am hopeful that this brief extension will provide both ends of Pennsylvania with the requisite time to hammer out our final spending bills in a responsible way. In fact, I understand that the bills individually, the five that have been vetoed by the President, are virtually resolved.

It is a no-nonsense CR that we are proposing here. I think it should be unanimously adopted. I am certainly urging a yes vote on the rule. I am not sure why we are having a rule instead of a unanimous consent; but for whatever reason, we are having a rule vote. I can think of no reason to vote against it. I urge a yes vote.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I thank the slender gentleman from Florida (Mr. Goss), my good friend, for yielding me the customary half hour.

Mr. Speaker, the end is finally in sight. Forty-eight hours after the start of the fiscal year, it looks as if the appropriation process is just about over. This continuing resolution will extend

our Federal funding until tomorrow, which should be all the time that we need.

My Republican colleagues sent President Clinton eight appropriation bills that he signed into law. The other five bills have been rolled into one omnibus bill, which should be finished sometime today. Once that bill is signed, Mr. Speaker, we no longer have to worry about the possibility of the Federal Government closing down, and Congress can get started on the next appropriation cycle.

Mr. Speaker, the appropriators and the administrators have been working very hard to resolve a lot of outstanding issues, and I wish them well in their final negotiations. I urge my colleagues to support this continuing resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we on the Committee on Rules are on virtually perpetual standby these days, and I would like to point out that there is a little confusion among Members this morning about whether it is a 1-day CR or a 2-day CR. Apparently there were some documents put out through the various organizations on either side that indicated that one of the options was a 2-day CR. This is not that CR. This is a 1-day CR. I want Members to be aware of that.

Of course Members of the Committee on Rules, as I say, are definitely aware of it and prepared for yet another evening of comrade fellowship and good times in the Committee on Rules, doing valuable things, waiting for some inspiration to come forward to us.

There is very definitely some feeling about trying to wrap this up, but I want to assure Members that the Committee on Rules is working toward that end. We well recognize the longer we stay here, the more opportunity there is for new initiatives to come forward at the last minute and divert us from our main task, which is to resolve the budget crunch.

We are also aware that the longer we are here, the more good ideas people have for spending money at a time when we have already reached agreement on what those levels should be.

So it is our very firm hope that this 24-hour CR will be enough. But if not, I think I am authorized to say by the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), chairman of the Committee on Rules, that the Committee on Rules will be prepared to meet, if necessary, again.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of our time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The previous question was ordered.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 381, I call up the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 80) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of House Joint Resolution 80 is as follows:

#### H.J. RES. 80

*Resolved by the Senate and House Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Public Law 106-62 is further amended by striking "November 17, 1999" in section 106(c) and inserting in lieu thereof "November 18, 1999". Public Law 106-46 is amended by striking "November 17, 1999" and inserting in lieu thereof "November 18, 1999".*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 381, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.J. Res. 80, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Speaker, this a 1-day continuing resolution, which I do not think is going to be adequate because the negotiations on wrapping up our appropriations work are still somewhat delayed, although the Speaker of the House and the President did speak with each other late last night, and we are hopeful that we can come to a conclusion.

The appropriations part of this negotiation has been completed for some time. The offsets, the pay-fors, are what are holding up the negotiations. We expect to have that completed today. We expect to file the bill in the House today, and we expect to consider the bill in the House today; and, hopefully, the other body will be able to expedite it as well.

So maybe the 1-day extension may be enough, but probably not. But nevertheless, this is what we have before us today.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I notice we have flights going overseas all the time, and I know this will have to be flown to the President. I cannot imagine, from what the

gentleman said, and what I have heard, that this negotiation is going to finish today.

It is hard to argue with a 1-day extension. We have had a couple other extensions. But I keep worrying that, as we mislead Members to think we are going to be finished, why we just would not pass a little longer CR. We complain about people not being around, and we seem to be able to get along without them, whoever it is that is not available to us. Of course, I know the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOUNG) does not do that. I know that he understands how the system works and as I do, too.

As a matter of fact, they suggested to me that we should ask for a vote. I am not sure I even know the procedure of how to ask for a vote because it has been so long since I have asked for a vote.

But having said that, I know that we have to get our business done. I am hopeful negotiations will end today. I am not as optimistic as the chairman is. But I know that sometime this week or next week or Thanksgiving or Christmas time we will be done.

As past history shows, sometimes we have delicate negotiations. I hope it is not an across-the-board cut. I worry so much. Because even the four-tenths of 1 percent cut would mean we would cut \$500 million out of O&M. With the two units that are C4, I realize there is not a big threat out there to the Army right now, but it worries me that we are doing this kind of work when, as the chairman suggested in the first place, if we had passed an adequate budget resolution, we would have been all through with this thing early in the year. We would not have had to resort to the kind of gimmicks that have been so distasteful to those of us on the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of the time.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) that, if he and I had been able to resolve this issue as we have been able to deal with the defense issues for many years, we would have concluded our business a long time ago.

I would like to say this, that the Committee on Appropriations in the House has done a good job. We basically completed our part of the business in July. Then we had the negotiations with our counterparts in the Senate. I would like to compliment our counterparts in the Senate. Senator STEVENS is a dynamic leader, a tough negotiator, and very knowledgeable. He does a really good job. And of course his partner there, Senator BYRD, is also very determined in what it is that he seeks to do.

But the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) and I have always

been able to get things resolved early on. We have not been able to do that on the wrap up appropriations work. But we are close to that conclusion now. I will say again the appropriators have done a good job. The appropriations part of this package is complete. The agreement will have some extraneous material, some riders, and the offsets that are holding us up. But, we do plan to file that bill today.

I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) for his comments.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

□ 1045

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). All time for debate has expired.

The joint resolution is considered as having been read for amendment.

Pursuant to House Resolution 381, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the joint resolution.

The joint resolution was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the joint resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 403, nays 8, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 596]

YEAS—403

Aderholt	Borski	Cramer
Allen	Boswell	Crane
Andrews	Boucher	Crowley
Archer	Boyd	Cubin
Armey	Brady (PA)	Cummings
Bachus	Brady (TX)	Cunningham
Baird	Brown (FL)	Danner
Baker	Brown (OH)	Davis (FL)
Baldacci	Bryant	Davis (IL)
Baldwin	Burr	Davis (VA)
Ballenger	Burton	DeFazio
Barcia	Buyer	DeGette
Barr	Callahan	Delahunt
Barrett (NE)	Calvert	DeLauro
Barrett (WI)	Camp	DeLay
Bartlett	Campbell	DeMint
Barton	Canady	Deutsch
Bass	Cannon	Dickey
Bateman	Capps	Dicks
Becerra	Capuano	Dingell
Bentsen	Cardin	Doggett
Bereuter	Carson	Dooley
Berkley	Castle	Doolittle
Berman	Chabot	Doyle
Berry	Chambliss	Dreier
Biggert	Clayton	Duncan
Bilbray	Clement	Edwards
Bilirakis	Clyburn	Ehlers
Bishop	Coble	Ehrlich
Blagojevich	Coburn	Emerson
Bliley	Collins	English
Blumenauer	Combest	Eshoo
Blunt	Condit	Etheridge
Boehlert	Cook	Evans
Boehner	Cooksey	Everett
Bonilla	Costello	Ewing
Bonior	Cox	Farr
Bono	Coyne	Fattah
		Filner
		Fletcher
		Foley
		Ford
		Fossella
		Fowler
		Frank (MA)
		Franks (NJ)
		Frelinghuysen
		Frost
		Gallegly
		Ganske
		Gejdenson
		Gekas
		Gephardt
		Gibbons
		Gilchrest
		Gillmor
		Gilman
		Gonzalez
		Goode
		Goodlatte
		Goodling
		Gordon
		Goss
		Graham
		Granger
		Green (TX)
		Green (WI)
		Greenwood
		Gutierrez
		Gutknecht
		Hall (OH)
		Hall (TX)
		Hansen
		Hastert
		Hastings (FL)
		Hastings (WA)
		Hayes
		Hayworth
		Hefley
		Herger
		Hill (IN)
		Hill (MT)
		Hilleary
		Hilliard
		Hinchey
		Hinojosa
		Hobson
		Hoeffel
		Hoekstra
		Holden
		Holt
		Hooley
		Horn
		Hostettler
		Houghton
		Hoyer
		Hulshof
		Hunter
		Hutchinson
		Hyde
		Inslee
		Isakson
		Istook
		Jackson (IL)
		Jackson-Lee
		(TX)
		Jenkins
		John
		Johnson (CT)
		Johnson, E. B.
		Jones (NC)
		Jones (OH)
		Kanjorski
		Kaptur
		Kasich
		Kelly
		Kennedy
		Kildee
		Kilpatrick
		Kind (WI)
		King (NY)
		Kingston
		Klecza
		Klink
		Knollenberg
		Kolbe
		Kucinich
		Kuykendall
		LaFalce
		LaHood
		Lantos
		Larson
		Latham
		LaTourette
		Lazio
		Leach
		Lee
		Levin
		Lewis (CA)
		Lewis (GA)
		Lewis (KY)
		Linder
		Lipinski
		LoBiondo
		Lofgren
		Lowey
		Lucas (KY)
		Lucas (OK)
		Luther
		Maloney (CT)
		Maloney (NY)
		Manullo
		Markey
		Martinez
		Mascara
		Matsui
		McCarthy (MO)
		McCarthy (NY)
		McCollum
		McCrery
		McDermott
		McGovern
		McHugh
		McInnis
		McIntosh
		McIntyre
		McKeon
		McNulty
		Meek (FL)
		Meeks (NY)
		Menendez
		Metcalfe
		Mica
		Millender-
		McDonald
		Miller (FL)
		Miller, Gary
		Miller, George
		Minge
		Mink
		Moakley
		Mollohan
		Moore
		Moran (KS)
		Moran (VA)
		Morella
		Murtha
		Myrick
		Nadler
		Napolitano
		Neal
		Nethercutt
		Ney
		Northup
		Nussle
		Oberstar
		Obey
		Olver
		Ortiz
		Ose
		Owens
		Oxley
		Packard
		Pallone
		Pascarell
		Pastor
		Payne
		Pease
		Pelosi
		Peterson (MN)
		Peterson (PA)
		Petri
		Phelps
		Pickering
		Pitts
		Pombo
		Pomeroy
		Porter
		Portman
		Price (NC)
		Pryce (OH)
		Quinn
		Radanovich
		Rahall
		Ramstad
		Rangel
		Regula
		Reyes
		Reynolds
		Riley
		Rivers
		Rodriguez
		Roemer
		Rogan
		Rogers
		Rohrabacher
		Ros-Lehtinen
		Roukema
		Roybal-Allard
		Royce
		Rush
		Ryan (WI)
		Ryun (KS)
		Sabo
		Sanchez
		Sanders
		Sandlin
		Sanford
		Sawyer
		Saxton
		Schaffer
		Schakowsky
		Scott
		Sensenbrenner
		Serrano
		Sessions
		Shays
		Sherman
		Sherwood
		Shimkus
		Shows
		Shuster
		Simpson
		Sisisky
		Skeen
		Skelton
		Slaughter
		Smith (MI)
		Smith (NJ)
		Smith (TX)
		Smith (WA)
		Snyder
		Souder
		Spratt
		Stabenow
		Stark
		Stearns
		Stenholm
		Strickland
		Stump
		Stupak
		Sununu
		Sweeney
		Talent
		Tancredo
		Tanner
		Tauscher
		Tauzin
		Taylor (MS)
		Taylor (NC)
		Terry
		Thomas
		Thompson (CA)
		Thompson (MS)
		Thornberry
		Thune
		Thurman
		Tiahrt
		Tierney
		Toomey
		Trafigant
		Turner
		Udall (CO)
		Udall (NM)
		Upton
		Velazquez
		Vento
		Visclosky
		Vitter
		Walden
		Walsh
		Wamp
		Waters
		Watt (NC)
		Watts (OK)
		Weiner
		Weldon (FL)
		Weldon (PA)
		Weller
		Wexler
		Weygand
		Whitfield
		Wicker

Wilson	Woolsey	Wynn
Wolf	Wu	Young (FL)

## NAYS—8

Chenoweth-Hage	Paul	Shaw
Deal	Salmon	Watkins
Forbes	Shadegg	

## NOT VOTING—23

Abercrombie	Jefferson	Rothman
Ackerman	Johnson, Sam	Scarborough
Clay	Lampson	Spence
Conyers	Largent	Towns
Diaz-Balart	McKinney	Waxman
Dixon	Meehan	Wise
Dunn	Norwood	Young (AK)
Engel	Pickett	

□ 1108

Mr. LUTHER changed his voted from "nay" to "yea."

So the joint resolution was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote number 596, that was the temporary continuing resolution, my vote was recorded incorrectly. I was present on the floor and I did vote "yes," and as a matter of fact I checked the board to double-check to see that I was recorded and saw the green light next to my name. It has been brought to my attention that my vote was incorrectly recorded as voting "no."

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, earlier today when the House voted on House Joint Resolution 80, to extend the continuing resolution for 24 hours, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes".

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record votes on postponed questions will be taken later today.

#### HOLDING COURT IN NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1418) to provide for the holding of court at Natchez, Mississippi, in the same manner as court is held at Vicksburg, Mississippi, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1418

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. HOLDING OF COURT AT NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI.

Section 104(b)(3) of title 28, United States Code, is amended in the second sentence by striking all beginning with the colon through "United States".

#### SEC. 2. HOLDING OF COURT AT WHEATON, ILLINOIS.

Section 93(a)(1) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding after Chicago "and Wheaton".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEINER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on S. 1418.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1418, as amended. It contains two small but important provisions that will improve the efficiency of the administration of justice in our Federal court system.

Section 1 was approved in the House by unanimous consent. This section proposes to allow for the holding of court in Natchez, Mississippi, in the same manner as court is held in Vicksburg. It would eliminate a provision in current law that limits the authority of the Federal courts to lease space in order to convene proceedings in Natchez, Mississippi.

While only a small number of Federal court cases are now tried at Natchez County Court facilities, it is important that the Federal Government be able to continue using the facility.

I have a manager's amendment that adds Section 2 to the bill. Section 2 designates Wheaton, Illinois, as a place of holding court for the Eastern Division of the Northern District of Illinois.

Wheaton is the seat of DuPage County, Illinois. Because of the large population growth in DuPage County and the area surrounding Chicago, it would be beneficial to designate Wheaton as an additional place of holding court.

Mr. Speaker, these are simple yet significant improvements to the Federal judicial system. I urge my colleagues to support S. 1418.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS) will claim the time of the gentleman from New York (Mr. WEINER).

There was no objection.

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today I urge the House to pass S. 1418, which would provide for the holding of Federal court in the City of Natchez, Mississippi.

□ 1115

Federal judges need the flexibility to hold court in different places within their judicial districts. However, the hands of Federal judges in the southern district of Mississippi are tied because of arcane language in Federal law. Language was written into law sometime ago that said the court could meet in Natchez "provided, that court shall be held at Natchez if suitable quarters and accommodations are furnished at no cost to the United States." To my knowledge no other city presents this kind of obstacle to the Federal courts. S. 1418 strikes this unfair and restrictive language and gives the court flexibility to meet in Natchez. And who would not want to meet in Natchez, a beautiful city in Mississippi? I appreciate the efforts of Senator THAD COCHRAN and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) to expedite the passage of this important legislation. I urge my colleagues to pass this fair and non-controversial bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HYDE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1418, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### RAILROAD POLICE TRAINING AT FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1235) to amend part G of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to allow railroad police officers to attend the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy for law enforcement training.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1235

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. INCLUSION OF RAILROAD POLICE OFFICERS IN FBI LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 701(a) of part G of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3771(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking "State or unit of local government" and inserting "State, unit of local government, or rail carrier"; and

(B) by inserting ", including railroad police officers" before the semicolon; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking "State or unit of local government" and inserting "State, unit of local government, or rail carrier";